



VOL. 3, NO. 32

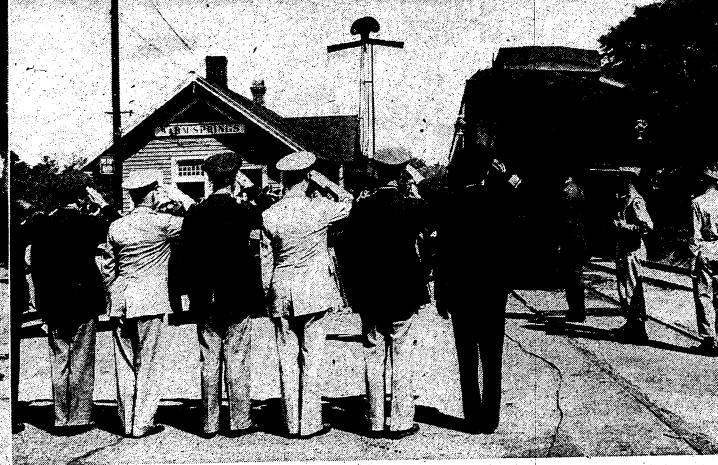
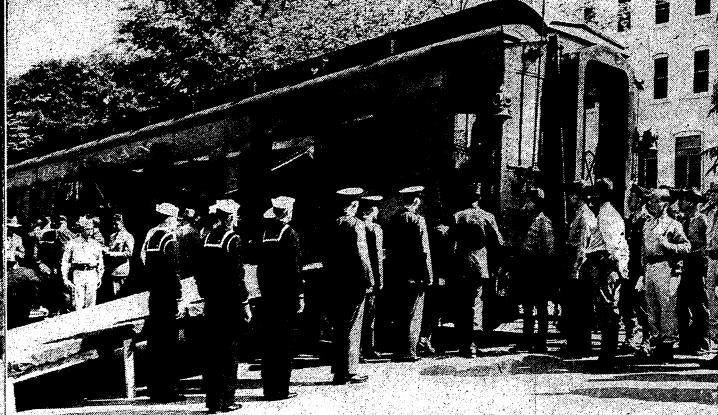
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COLUMBUS, GA., APRIL 19, 1945

For America's Most Complete Post

8 PAGES TODAY

FORT BENNING PAYS FINAL TRIBUTE TO FDR



Fort Benning's Farewell to the Commander-in-Chief

The picture layout above, a Bayonet exclusive, portrays a vivid record of Fort Benning's part in the Roosevelt funeral procession at Warm Springs, Ga., last Friday morning. At top, left, leading the procession is Brig. Gen. William G. Walker, commanding general, School Troops, The Infantry School, accompanied by his aide-de-camp, Lt. Raymond C. Buchman, and a walkie-talkie operator. In the background are the combined bands of the 99th AGF Band and the 267th AGF Band which provided the music. At the extreme left is CWO Morris N. Pournmitt of the 267th Band. In the picture at middle left is shown a portion of one of the Infantry Training Detachments marching in column of fours down the lane provided by the OCS and paratroopers lining both sides of the highway. At bottom, left, are several of the high-ranking military and naval officers who followed on foot directly behind the hearse bearing the President's body. The first two some-

is Rear Admiral Jules James, Commandant, Sixth Naval District of Charleston, and Maj. Gen. Fred L. Walker, commandant of The Infantry School. The next two some is composed of Brig. Gen. Sidney Erickson, chief of staff, Fourth Service Command, Atlanta; and Brig. Gen. Joseph Battle, deputy chief of staff for service commands, ASF, Washington. Behind General Erickson is Brig. Gen. William H. Hobson, post commander, and far to the left can be seen Col. Wilson M. Spann, executive officer, The Infantry School. The first mourner's car behind the marching officers is that containing Mrs. Roosevelt and Rear Admiral Ross McIntyre, the President's personal physician, both of whom arrived at Fort Benning by plane late Thursday while en route to Warm Springs. At top, right, is general scene at the railroad station just after the casket had been carried up the ramp by an honor guard and placed inside the train through the open window. Portions of the

honor guard are about to enter the coach to stand guard at the bier. All soldiers shown are Fort Benning personnel. At middle right is Photographer Phil Charlson's splendid shot of the Roosevelt bier on the train. The soldier on the left of the casket is Sgt. George H. Schramm, while the one on the right is Sgt. Henry W. Jones. Both are members of ITD No. 2, School Troops, and were among six men from their unit who accompanied the body to Washington. At bottom right is Benning's final farewell to the commander-in-chief as the train begins to leave the station. The saluting officers with their backs to the camera are, left to right: Maj. Allen D. Albert, Jr., of The Infantry School; General Hobson, General Battle, General Erickson, General Walker, and Admiral James. Two Benning paratroopers are visible at the right, while the two civilians are both secret service men. — (Bayonet Staff photos by Pfc. Phil Charlson, sole military cameraman at the Warm Springs funeral procession.)

2,100 Of Post's Best Form Honor Guard In Warm Springs Friday

BY SGT. CARL NEU

The road to Warm Springs was clogged with long convoys of Army vehicles in the hours before dawn last Friday morning as more than 2,100 of Fort Benning's finest hastened to the little Georgia cross-road community to pay final respects to the mortal remains of their suddenly departed commander-in-chief, Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

To an earthen road along the way the convoys might have appeared to be just another military maneuver, but within the hearts of the men inside those trucks and busses and jeeps there was sadness intermingled with fierce American pride.

News of the President's death had reached those men early the previous evening and like the rest of their comrades at Fort Benning they had been stunned indeed. Now, though, as they rode along the highway to Warm Springs, they were beginning to realize the full import of the road they had chosen.

Hastily summoned from their bunks in the wee small hours of the morning, many hadn't realized just where they were going. But the road markers pointed to Warm Springs and their chests began to swell with pride, because they had been picked as representatives of America's most complete Army post to stand guard of honor at the bier and march in the funeral cortège of their most beloved commander-in-chief.

To every last man, and there was every rank from major general to buck private representing the post at Warm Springs last Friday, they did themselves proud, performed their duties with an exemplary manner and, with the eyes of the world upon them, paid fitting military tribute to the greatest leader in the world.

The Warm Springs mission was one that none of those privileged 2,100 soldiers and officers—any ever selected for it—was at once the saddest and yet the proudest moment of their lives.

When the convoys reached Warm Springs last Friday morning, the sun was just beginning to creep over the horizon. As the trucks,

We Were 'His Boys'!

When the late President Roosevelt visited Fort Benning in 1943, he left no doubt in the minds of those who met him concerning his great interest in the men in the ranks. Met at the train by Maj. Gen. Leaven C. Allen, then commandant of The Infantry School, and Brig. Gen. Walter S. Fulton, then post commander, his first words upon greeting them were: "Well, how are you taking care of my boys down here?"

Coming in on State Highway No. 85 from Columbus, reached the intersection of Pine Road, they could see the little railroad station, fifty paces away, and on the track nearby was the 10-car train, powered by two huge engines, that was to carry the body of the commander-in-chief to Washington.

At the crossroad they saw the familiar figure of Maj. Gen. Fred L. Walker, commandant of the Infantry School, who had been summoned to Warm Springs the night before and placed in charge of all military activities in connection with the funeral procession.

General Walker stood at the crossroads, directing activities in much the same manner that he had stood at Salerno beachhead, not quite more than a year ago, directing the flow of battle in that bloody inferno. For the first 36 hours at Salerno, General Walker had been in command of all Allied forces on the beachhead.

As the long convoys reached the crossroad, General Walker sent them on down Pine Road to areas on and near the Foundation for Infantile Paralysis which Franklin Roosevelt had founded years before.

Included in the 2,100 men were 1,600 from School Troops, the Infantry School; 300 from the 2nd Parachute Training Regiment, the Parachute School; 150 officer candidates from the 30th Co., 3rd STR, the Infantry School; and 50 specially-selected Military Policemen from MP Detachment I, station complement, Army Service Forces.

Post Flag Draped Casket

The flag which covered the casket of the late commander-in-chief, on the long journey from the Little White House at Warm Springs to the White House in Washington was issued by the Director of Supply's office here at Fort Benning at 3:00 a. m. Friday morning and rushed to Warm Springs with the detachment of MPs who formed an honor guard during the funeral procession.

When the request for the flag came from Warm Springs, the night duty officer at the quartermaster office was alerted and went to the warehouse to obtain the flag.

It was then rushed to Quartermaster Laundry No. 2 to be pressed and folded by the lone worker still on duty before it was sent to Warm Springs. Whether the Benning flag accompanied the casket after its arrival in Washington is unknown, but the one draping the casket on the long trip from the Southland was procured here,

The MPs, under the personal command of Lt. Col. Victor Lee, Director, Security and Intelligence Division at post headquarters, were immediately dispersed in the area around the station, controlling traffic and guiding the train. Later ten of the same MPs were to be accorded the privilege of forming an honor guard to handle the casket once it had been placed inside the train.

The rest of the troops assembled on the golf course near the entrance to the foundation. Meanwhile Marines from the detachment stationed at the Little White House worked rapidly at the station constructing the ramp upon which the casket was to be carried up to the train.

There was a hushed stillness all about. Scores of newspapermen, cameramen, and newsreel photographers scurried about the area near the station making preparations to cover the funeral procession. Capt. Richard E. Tukey, post public relations officer, who had arrived on the scene shortly before 7 a. m., met with the press and kept them informed on the plans for Fort Benning's participation in the procession.

Secret servicemen also mingled in the small gatherings of village residents. Mostly, though, the villages went on about their business. The small country store on one corner opened its doors for business, a truck pulled up to deliver vegetables, and a few housewives came along with their market baskets. But everywhere there was relative stillness.

Then suddenly came the thump of faching feet as 300 husky young paratroopers came up Pine Road from the gates of the foundation, young paratroopers of a mile away. Under the command of Lt. Col. Mark J. Alexander, director of advanced training at the Parachute School, they swiftly moved into single file on both sides of the road and assumed positions three paces apart.

Farther down the road, the officer candidates of the 30th company followed suit and taking up where the paratroopers left off, they continued the long line of march and soldiers, in both sides of the road. The OCS were under the command of Capt. John R. Tyson. When all were in position, there was a solid line on both sides of the road from the gates of the foundation right up to the railroad station.

The MPs, nattily attired in their white gloves and leggings, formed secondary lines just behind the paratroopers in the vicinity of the crossroads.

Then, after almost an interminable wait while the hushed stillness seemed to rise in crescendo, there came from the distance

Continued on Page 7

ROD AND GUN

Newlyweds Busy Fishing To Stock Family Larder

BY CPL. "TAP" GOODENOUGH

This is the tale of a couple of newlyweds who a-fishin' did go.

Married recently, and now settled down to the trials of housekeeping, Sgt. Harry Geeslin and his better three-quarters, Caroline, discovered that there was a meat shortage—and red points were something of which there were non-existent.

"Well, we'll have to fish," spoke Harry, one of Fort Benning's veteran anglers and woodsmen. "While there's fish, there's food!"

"Yo'all will have to bone 'em, dahlin,'" murmured the missus, watching her spouse's sinews ripple...

"That I will," he replied, whipping forth his trusty hunting knife...

And thus they ventured forth, loaded down with tackle and bait, accompanied by Sgt. Jack King and Miss Lily Wilson, as they smacked their lips in eager anticipation of the savory species which they hoped to hook.

The fishing was good, but was Harry's Point on the reservation, framed in a natural setting of verdant foliage, and stippled with lily pads—neath which hovered the "ones that get away."

Of course, kind reader, you now suspect that this story will end with a description of a day of frustration for the fisher folk—and not fish.

But you're mistaken! Instead found the quartet heading homeward with more than 30 bream, a nice catch in any language...

Champion rod-and-reel of the group was Miss Wilson, who landed 20 of the fish by herself.

Everyone used worms for bait, but Sgt. Geeslin had put the wriggling creatures on his wife's hook, for she can't stand the sight of 'em!

After eating fish for a week, they are now wishing that the hunting season was not so far away!

GUN SHOTS: Local nimrods, who were disappointed by the lack of ducks last fall, will be interested to learn that the duck population actually did increase about 12 per cent, but excepting only mild weather spoilt the sport. Ducks Unlimited of Canada adds.

The unusual weather, the report discloses, was the chief factor in the decline of the shooting in spite of an increase in ducks. The observers claim good shooting in all weather, with 75 localities throughout the country—but poor hunting weather in 432 localities.

The heaviest flight and the best hunting conditions were found in the Western portion of the Mississippi, and in the states of Iowa, through Minnesota, the Dakotas, Montana, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa and Oklahoma. Across the Northern zone, there were more ducks and better hunting West of the Mississippi than East.

Another Benning soldier, Mike Raffa, one of the leading featherweights in the country, will fight in the main bout of an all-star boxing program to be held in Atlanta April 25. Benning's Marine Mike seconded to world's champion, Willie Pep. His Atlanta opponent will be announced later, and we know that the popular exponent of the man-in-a-bag will be a lesion of rotters cheering him on to a kavat.

The major league ball seasons jumped off to a flying start Tuesday and the great Walter Johnson will participate in the flag raising ceremonies. Instead of the New York Yankees clashed with the Washington Senators tomorrow in a game dedicated to the memory of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who inspired the National League to carry on despite the war.

Berchenko Wins Pool Championship In 2nd Army Finals

T-4 Harry Berchenko is the pool champion of Fourth Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Special Troops, Second Army, prepared to begin a long series of tournaments.

After a month of informal competition in which players were enabled to get their games back into shape, competition will now begin via the "ladder" method, as players challenge the next highest ranking man in order to move up into the top brackets.

OHISER FIRST

Ken Ohiser of Tacoma, Washington, who used to play a lot of tennis for the College of Puget Sound in the early 30's, was seeded number four, while Edwin Penick of Raleigh, N. C., drew the number two position.

In the third slot was Robert Love, of Columbus, Ohio, and Jerry Bierer, of Faribault, Wis., was given number four.

Ken Ohiser, George Wood, of Los Angeles, California, Wood, now away on tour, is expected to move higher up when he gets back and begins play again.

MOTHER NAMES HER TWINS FOR ISLAND MARINES TOOK

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Henry W. Jones, Jr.; Tech. Sgt. Thurman L. Barham; St. Sgt. William T. Anderson, St. Sgt. Stanley T. Basta; St. Sgt. Wayne C. Gerber, and St. Sgt. George G. Schramm.

After the body had been placed on the rear platform of the coach and the horses of the Army, Navy, and Marine pallbearers and carried up the ramp and placed in the rearcoach of the train where it was obtained by the ten Benning MP's who placed it in position.

Six members of the 16-man honor guard which handled the casket at various times came from Infantry Training Detachment No. 2, School Troops. These same six men also accompanied the body to Washington along with six Marines and four Navy men. The Marines were from the Warm Springs detachment, while the Navy personnel came from Atlanta.

The IHD No. 2 men in the honor guard were Tech. Sgt. Henry W. Jones, Jr.; Tech. Sgt. Thurman L. Barham; St. Sgt. William T. Anderson, St. Sgt. Stanley T. Basta; St. Sgt. Wayne C. Gerber, and St. Sgt. George G. Schramm.

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For Benning had paid its last respects to the beloved commander-in-chief.

As soon as the photographers were finished, the troops were ordered to present arms, the officers snapped to salute and the train began to move, slowly disappearing from view behind the station and the head of the train.

Fort Benning had paid its last respects to the beloved commander-in-chief.

8 Battle Vets Decorated With Combat Badges

BY CORP. LOUIS D. RUBIN, JR.

(Editor's Note: Any resemblance between this attempt at lexicography and Merriam-Webster's International Dictionary is purely complimentary.)

DISPATCHER (n.): A species of soldier known for ability to give out all the vehicles before you ask for one, and who is adept at saying, "Sorry, the last one just left."

GOOF OFF (v.): Mispeeling of the Paleo-Grecian word "Cheeuf uff," which meant "demonstrate any signs of intelligence."

Used now by sergeants in the following manner: "I don't want none of you to goof off."

GORILLA (n.): Apelike characters, carnivorous to the extreme, quantities of which are to be found going to and from Ingersoll.

Loop in the early morning and after 5:30 p.m.

NIGHT PROBLEM (n.): "And we are here as on a darkling plain,

Swept with confused alarms clash by night."

Where ignorant armaments clash by night."

Dover Beach, Arnold.

DOUGHBOY STADIUM (n.): An enormous edifice which has in its time served as a football field, a softball diamond, a drill field, a chapel, a theater, a dance hall, and even, when the M.P.'s aren't around, a lovers' lane.

VOICE OF FORT BENNING (n.): A radio commentator adept at giving out in stentorian tones to the general public a complete summary of anything that is news.

BICYCLE (n.): A two-wheeled means of conveyance which belongs to the Public Relations office and which is exceedingly handy at getting stolen and not recovered for a month or so.

PX BREW (n.): To paraphrase the Carter's Little Liver Pills ad, "It does the work of beer without the kick of beer."

DOUGIE VICTIM

Cpl. Ernest G. Lumber, who had previously been decorated with the Purple Heart for wounds suffered when an enemy torpedo struck the ship from which he was using to get ashore, died at Casablanca. He later took part in the amphibious invasions of Sicily, Salerno and Anzio. Now assigned to the School of Infantry where Hornberger is now an assistant automotive instructor. He falls into Litzt, Pa.

TOUGH BOY

unit stationed in the Sand Hill Area of Fort Benning.

The ribbon awarded to soldiers for "having demonstrated fidelity through faithful and exact performance of duty, efficiency through capacity to produce desired results, and whose behavior has been such as to deserve emulation," will be presented to each recipient at retreat ceremonies.

Information & Education

Questions Of The Week

ANSWERS ON PAGE 8

1. What is the status of the relationship between the United States and Argentina?

2. What is the attitude of Great Britain toward Argentina?

3. How many German prisoners have General Bradley's armies taken?

4. How many Japanese have been killed or captured in Manila?

5. How far is Hanover from Berlin? When was Hanover captured and by whom?

6. Where are the famed "Nazi Suicide troops" located? How many are there?

7. What is the "murder assault" unit used by the First Army troops in Germany?

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Keep That

Library Art Exhibit Depicts Allied Aid In Supplying China

Fort Benning personnel will from the door of his haystack but have a chance to see first-hand on the edge of the field.

A desert strip in Karachi, India, provides the scene for "Contrast" which shows a modern four-motored plane resting on a primitive ox-cart strip near a primitive ox-cart driven by a native. Other land-traits of India are shown in "Soldiers preparing a 'chicken'" and "Farm Buildings in China" one of Gass' few works done in that country where art supplies were hard to get.

The most striking portraits are two water-colors of natives. "My Bear" is a sharp-featured, mustached, turbaned man who quit tea-pushing to haul water and wash clothing for Gass' squad.

The other, who cleaned the Americans' "basha" huts, is caught by the artist in a fierce self-conscious pose, his eyes set in a glazed stare which, added to his shock of unruly hair and a slashed ear, gives him a wild, impudent look.

INTERESTING PORTRAITS

Other interesting portraits are of a strong, calm American soldier and ex-boxer obviously tickled by his new rôle as a "native" who escaped from Singapore; and "A British Tommy" with an American Tommy-gun.

Each subject was picked for his interesting face, Gass says. All are portrayed as individual characters but their pictures have in common the sunliness of the tropics in which they worked together.

The library exhibit was arranged with the cooperation of Miss Frances Chandler, librarian.

The final landscape painting set the scene from a plane to complete a 50-hour checkup which had been interrupted by a sudden monsoon downpour. A heavy camouflage curtain hangs over the plane; the Japs bombed Assam frequently from their bases in China. Gass painted this picture.

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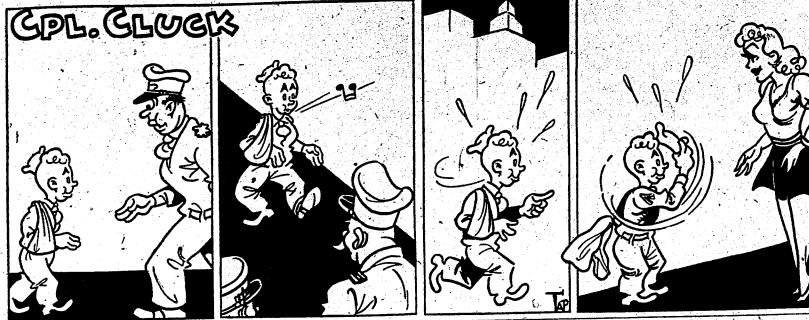
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Philippine Liberation Ribbons Pinned On 206 Combat Vets

The Philippine Liberation ribbon Friday was pinned on members of the detachment of combat veterans who will tour the nation.

The "Here's Your Infantry" show in the Seventh War Loan. Two hundred and six of the 1,167 veterans of overseas action qualified for the ribbon.

Colonel Alejandro Melchor, of the United States Army, military adviser to Philippine President Sergio Osmeña, and a veteran of the Leyte invasion, decorated the

men, the commandos, on January 16, reached him today.

The citation for Lieutenant Reimel read:

"Frank L. Reimel for courageous devotion to duty and Infantry Demonstration Detach-

ment in the field, in the liberation of the Philippines, at the command of General MacArthur, and by direction of the command, are temporarily appointed and commissioned 2d Lieutenant in the Army of the United States."

Participating in the decoration ceremony were General Walker; Brig. Gen. George H. Weems, Assistant Commandant of The Infantry School; Col. Wilson L. Walker, Technical Sergeant Frank L. Reimel of Springfield, Pa. Reimel had been cited for a battlefield promotion to second lieutenant while in action with the 24th Infantry Division in the Philippines.

The citation for Lieutenant Reimel read:

"Frank L. Reimel for commanding Officer of Provisional

through his fanatical resistance, burning him out of his caves and pillboxes, never giving him time to reorganize, they made possible the first major step in the ejection of that enemy from the Philippines."

The citation for Lieutenant Reimel read:

"Frank L. Reimel for displaying high leadership."

31 STATES

Most of the Philippine veterans, who shortly will go on a nationwide tour in the Army Ground Forces War Bond Selling Show to demonstrate to the public how a Japanese pillbox is blasted and burned out, came from the 7th, 24th, 25th, 32nd, 37th, 40th, and 43rd Infantry Divisions, and the First Cavalry Division. Their homes are in 31 different states.

Speaking briefly before the decoration ceremony, Colonel Melchor declared: "These ribbons are a token of my government's appreciation, admiration and total support of the splendid planning and magnificence of the liberation of the Philippines as well as the true loyalty and gratitude of the Filipino people to this great country, the United States of America for our deliverance from the evil clutches of a devilish enemy."

CITATION

The citation for the liberation ribbon recognized the soldiers for being engaged in the hazardous invasion of Leyte, Mindoro and Luzon. Forcing the enemy out of his positions, driving

through his fanatical resistance, burning him out of his caves and pillboxes, never giving him time to reorganize, they made possible the first major step in the ejection of that enemy from the Philippines."

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